CLAIMS

1. A hydrate of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione, maleic acid salt., characterised in that it:

(i) comprises water in the range of from 0.2 to 1.1% w/w ; and

(ii) provides an infra red spectrum containing peaks at 764 and 579 cm^{-1}; and/or

(iii) provides an X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) pattern substantially as set out in Figure II.

2. A hydrate according to claim 1, wherein the water content is in the range of from 05 to 0.6%w/w.

3. A hydrate according to claim 1 or claim 2, which provides an infra red spectrum substantially in accordance with Figure I.

4. A hydrate according to any one of claims 1 to 3, which provides an X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) pattern substantially as set out in Figure II.

5. A hydrate according to any one of claims 1 to 4, in isolated form.

6. A hydrate according to any one of claims 1 to 5, in pure form.

7. A hydrate according to any one of claims 1 to 6, in crystalline form.

8. A compound in the form of a rehydratable form of a hydrate according to any one of claims 1 to 7.

9. A process for preparing a hydrate according to claim 1, characterised in that 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione, maleic acid salt is crystallised from aqueous ethanol.

10. A process according to claim 11, wherein the aqueous ethanol contains from 2% to 2.5% of water by volume.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective, non-toxic amount of a hydrate according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

12. A hydrate according to claim 1, for use as an active therapeutic substance.

13. A hydrate according to claim 1, for use in the treatment and/or prophylaxis of diabetes mellitus, conditions associated with diabetes mellitus and certain complications thereof.

14. The use of Hydrate for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of diabetes mellitus, conditions associated with diabetes mellitus and certain complications thereof.

15. A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of diabetes mellitus, conditions associated with diabetes mellitus and certain complications thereof, in a human or non-human mammal which comprises administering an effective, non-toxic, amount of Hydrate to a human or non-human mammal in need thereof.